

MAHA MAYA AND YUGA MAYA

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CONCEPT OF MAHA MAYA

The supreme personality of Godhead Krishna has infinite number of energies; some are external and some are internal. In simple language the external energy of Krishna is called Mayam or Maha-Mayam. In terms of this material world it is called Prakriti (material world) and in terms of its physical existence. It is manifested by the image of Goddess Durga or Kali. In one sense Mayam is that energy through which Krishna ties down all the living entities of the material world. The whole world is charmed by the three modes of nature: goodness, passion, and ignorance. As a small particle of the supreme Lord, jiva cannot come over from the influences of the above three modes of nature. He

becomes conditioned by these three things.

The founder Acarya of ISKCON His divine Grace Srila A.C. Bhakti-Vedanta

Swami Prabhupada remarked: "Every living entity under the influence of material nature it has a particular type of body and a particular type of psychological and biological activities accordingly.

And if we become entangled with the mood modes of material nature, then forget the Supreme Personality of Godhead who is behind all these modes. "

Through the above three modes, Mahamayam binds/ties all the living entities of the material world because they are a very small part of the supreme lord.

It may be noted here that the any of the above modes of nature do not singularly affect but a combination of two and modes very much affect the lives of living entities.

DIFFERENT FORMS OF MAHAMAYAN

The names by which Mahamaya Devi is known in different places of India has been described by Vallabha Acarya (the renowned Vaishnavas of Vishnu swami sect) as follows.

(1) First of all in Varanasi she is known as Durga.

(2) Secondly in Avantipur (Ujjain) She is known as Bhadrakali.

(3) Thirdly She is known as Vijaya in Orissa.

(4) Fourthly in Kuthapuri, she is known as a Vaishnavi or Mahalaxmi (the representative of Mahalaxmi and Ambika present in Bombay)

(5)Fifthly in Kamarupa she is called as Candika.

(6)Sixthly She is known as Sarada in Northern India.

(7) Seventhly in Cape Camoren, she is called Kanyaka.

This she is has been distributed according to various names in de various places of India.

Srila Vijayadevaja Tirthapada, in his Padaratna vali-tika has explained the meanings of the different represent as follows-

(1)First of all Maya is called as Durga because she is approached with great difficulty.

(2)Secondly She is known as Bhadra for She is auspicious.

(3)Thirdly -She is called Kali because She is deep-blue.

(4)Fourthly, because of the most powerful energy .She is called Vijaya.

(5) Fifthly because of one of the different energies of Vishnu She is called Vaisnavi.

(6) Sixthly because she enjoys this material world and gives facilities for material enjoyment, she is known as Kumuda.

(7) Seventhly since for She is very severe to her enemies, asuras, demons etc.She is called Candika.

(8) Eightly she gives all sorts of material enjoyment. This is why she is called Krishna.

In the above ways the material energy is different by name and situated in various places on the

surface of the globe.

HOW TO GET RID-OFF FROM THE MAHA MAYA ?

The Supreme Personality of Godhead said in the Bhagavad Gita -

“This divine energy of Mine, consisting of the three modes of material nature is difficult to overcome. But those who have surrendered unto Me, can easily cross it," Here Krishna although said that His illusory energy is very strong to cross, at the same time suggests how to overcome it, they will have to be surrendered unto Him unconditionally.The same thing has been

suggested in Upanishad Svetashara (4:10). My Param Gurudeva Divine grace Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada in this case remarked; "The word mam eva are also significant.Mam

means unto Krishna only (Vishnu) only and not Brahma or Shiva although Brahma and Shiva are greatly elevated are almost on the level of Vishnu it is not possible for such incarnations of raja-guna (passion) and tamaguna (ignorance) to release the conditioned soul from the clutches of maya. Even Lord Shiva says "There is no doubt that Vishnu is the deliverer of liberation for everyone." (B.G 7.14)

CONCEPT OF YUGOMAYA

In simple by Yugamaya we mean the inner energy of the Supreme God. With the help of this energy, Krishna does not appear before anyone. Thus it may be called a curtain before Krishna.

naham prakasha sarvesya yuga- maya samabrotam (B.G.7.25)

- This means Krishna says that He does not manifest to the foolish and unintelligent. For them I am covered by My internal potency and therefore they do not know that I am unborn and infallible.

It is said in Bhagavatam (1.13.19) that the lord is covered by the costly curtain of yuga-maya and thus ordinary people cannot understand Him. This yuga waya curtain is also confirmed from the upanisad (matra no 13).

Yugamaya helps Krishna to perform all of his transcendental, Lilas in the Vrindavan Dham. Here She is known as Parnamashi (the mother of Krishna-Balaramesh Guru Sandipuni recs and as the grandmother of a friend of Krishna named Madhu- Mangala). She plays the role of a mediator between the Gopas and Krishna if any quarrel arises between them. Again in Gokula Vrindavan

then she plays this potency becomes Yugomaya and renders Her different services of or the different lilas between Krishna and Radha Rani and the Gopas and Gopis.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MAHA MAYA AND YUGA MAYA

Yugamaya and Mahamaya are the two potencies of the Lord Krishna. But there are some differences between these two potencies of the Lord.

(1) First of all Mahamaya denotes the external potency of the Lord. On the other hand, Yugamaya represents his internal potency

(2) Secondly Mahamaya can influence the ordinary people at large. Because potency is such a great that ordinary people cannot resist. The Lord Himself says that this potency is very much mighty. As such conditioned should cannot cross her.

On the other hand, Yugamaya represents such an energy/potency of the Lord which cannot be seen on the part of a conditioned soul. This potency takes its image to help the different lilas of the Lord.

(3) Thirdly the potency of Mahamaya is applicable for a people who is against the Lord, do such activities which are against the norms of religion, miscreants, asura and of demons etc. On the other hand, Yugo maya, the internal potency of the Lord Krishna gives spiritual happiness to His devotees.

(4) Fourthly from the active angle, Maha-maya represents this material world which is known as Prakriti

On the otherhand, Yugomaga, from the same angle, helps Krishna to perform his different lilas.

(5) Lastly the external potency of Krishna is represented by as Durga, Kali, Candi etc in this material world. This Durga controls the 14 bhuvanas and destroys it with the help of Rudra Shiva:

On the other hand, Yugamaya can do any activity. In the material world She helps to perform all lilas of Krishna and at the same time makes any consensus between Krishna and the Gopies, especially Radha-Rani when any quarrel takes place between them.